

Message Text

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PASS TO DEP ASST SEC DALLEY

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 6995 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO PARIS
MAY 08.
QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 06995

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: ILO, PLAB
SUBJECT: US-ILO RELATIONS: APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS

REF: (A) STATE 116109 (B) GENEVA 6188

1. ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL MET WITH IMEC REPS IN GENEVA
MAY 5. HE REVIEWED THE 1978 REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF
EXPERTS ON THE APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDA-
TIONS. HE SINGLED OUT TWO PROVISIONS OF THIS YEAR'S
REPORT FOR SPECIAL EMPHASIS: PARAGRAPH 10 WHICH
REPRODUCES THE SAME STATEMENT ON THE APPLICATION OF
SINGLE STANDARDS THAT APPEARED IN LAST YEAR'S REPORT;
AND PARAGRAPH 103 WHICH URGES COUNTRIES CITED IN LAST
YEAR'S REPORT TO TAKE ACTION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN
SPITE OF THE FACT THAT THAT REPORT WAS NOT APPROVED BY
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THE CONFERENCE.

2. AS REPORTED SEPTEL, THE DG REVEALED THAT IN HIS ANNUAL
REPORT TO THE ILO CONFERENCE HE HAS DEVOTED A PAGE TO THE
QUESTION OF THE SUPERVISION OF THE APPLICATION OF CON-
VENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. HE SAID HE HAS ASKED "THE
CONFERENCE TO BE CALLED UPON MERELY TO TAKE NOTE OF THE

REPORT" OF THE TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE. HE SAID THE WORK OF THE TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE IS SIMILAR TO THAT OF A CONCILIATION PROCEDURE OR A SPECIAL HEARINGS COMMITTEE WHICH RAISES THE QUESTION WHETHER ITS REPORT SHOULD REALLY BE SUBMITTED TO THE PLENARY CONFERENCE FOR FORMAL APPROVAL.

3. ASKED WHAT HE EXPECTED WOULD BE DONE WITH THIS SUGGESTION, BLANCHARD REPLIED HE REALIZED IT WAS SOMEWHAT CONTROVERSIAL BUT HE BELIEVED HE HAD TO MAKE THE SUGGESTION IN ORDER TO AVOID A REPETITION OF THE EVENTS OF LAST YEAR'S CONFERENCE WHICH HAS LEFT A BITTER AFTERTASTE. HE SAID HE FAVORED CONSULTATIONS AND WOULD EXPECT THE SUGGESTION WILL BE DISCUSSED BY THE TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE AT THE JUNE CONFERENCE. HE ASSERTED, "I HAVE REASONS TO BELIEVE THAT THIS SUGGESTION HAS THE SUPPORT OF MANY DELEGATIONS". HE INDICATED HOWEVER THAT HE EXPECTS THE USSR WILL OPPOSE THE PROPOSAL BECAUSE "THE SOVIETS BELIEVE THE CONFERENCE IS THE SUPREME POWER IN THE ILO AND THAT NOTHING SHOULD OCCUR WITHOUT ITS APPROVAL".

4. FOLLOWING THE MEETING, MISSION LABATT OBTAINED AN ADVANCE COPY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT. IT SAYS IN PART: QUOTE IF THE CONFERENCE IS TO BE EXPECTED TO TAKE A GLOBAL DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE APPLICATION OF STANDARDS OR SEPARATE DECISIONS ON EACH OF THE CASES IT REFERS TO, THERE IS A RISK EITHER THAT THE VOTE WILL

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BE AMBIGIOUS OR THAT THE ORGANISATION'S SUPERVISORY MACHINERY AS A WHOLE, WHICH CAN ONLY CONTRIBUTE TO A PROPER APPLICATION OF THE ILO'S INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS IF IT FUNCTIONS AS A SINGLE UNIT, WILL BE WEAKENED. IT IS THEREFORE WORTH CONSIDERING WHETHER IT MIGHT NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE FOR THE CONFERENCE TO BE CALLED UPON MERELY TO TAKE NOTE OF THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT. UNQUOTE VANDEN HEUVEL UNQUOTE VANCE

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